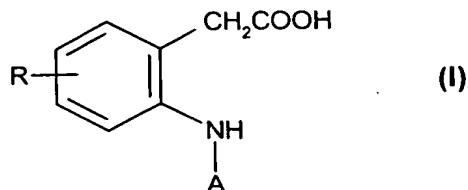

ABSTRACT

Compounds of formula (I)



wherein

R is hydrogen, lower alkyl, (C₃-C₆)cycloalkyl, hydroxy, halo, lower alkoxy, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoromethyl or cyano; and

A is biaryl, optionally substituted β-naphthyl, bicyclic heterocyclic aryl, (C₃-C₆)cycloalkyl-monocyclic carbocyclic aryl, or (C₅ or C₆)cycloalkane fused-monocyclic carbocyclic aryl;

pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof; and pharmaceutically acceptable esters thereof; which are useful for the treatment of COX-2 dependent disorders.